

In the Claims:**CLAIMS.**

5 We claim:

1. (Original) A tool for medical testing, the tool comprising, in combination:

a stethoscope, the stethoscope comprising:

10 a stethoscope head, the stethoscope head having an operational surface;

one or more earpieces; and

a means for connecting the stethoscope head with the earpiece;

15 a reflex hammer, the reflex hammer attached to the stethoscope head, the reflex hammer comprising:

20 a body having a rim, a wall adjoining the rim, and an opening therein, the stethoscope head being received in the opening, the rim being larger than the stethoscope head, the body positioned on the stethoscope head such that the reflex hammer does not interfere with the stethoscope head operational surface; and

a handle, the handle joined to the body, the handle sized to receive and semi-rigidly receiving the connecting means therein.

25 2. (Original) The tool as described in claim 1, wherein the stethoscope is a binaural stethoscope.

3. (Original) The tool as described in claim 1, wherein the stethoscope is an electronic stethoscope.

30 4. (Original) The tool as described in claim 1, wherein the stethoscope further comprises a means for selecting the stethoscope head operational surfaces, the means for selecting the stethoscope head operational surfaces being between the stethoscope head and the means for connecting.

35 5. (Original) The tool as described in claim 4, wherein the reflex hammer further comprises an opening therein, the opening in the body being between the rim and the handle, the opening allowing access to the means for selecting the stethoscope head operational surfaces.

U.S. Pat. App. Ser. No. 10//608,385
Stetho AMD1 052005

4

6[[5]]. (Currently Amended) The tool as described in claim 5, wherein the handle further comprises a detent.

5 Z [[6]]. (Currently Amended) The tool as described in claim 6, wherein the detent is distal to the stethoscope head.

8 [[7]] (Currently Amended) The tool as described in claim 5, further comprising a means for locking the means for selecting the stethoscope head operational surface.

10

9. (Original) The tool as described in claim 6, wherein the body further comprises a pair of joined members.

10. (Original) The tool as described in claim 9, wherein the members are not symmetrical.

15

11. (Original) The tool as described in claim 10, wherein the members are joined by a fastener.

20

12. (Original) The tool as described in claim 11, wherein the fastener is selected from the group consisting of hook and eye closures, hook and loop fasteners, snaps, buttons, ridges, press-fit and snap-fit components.

13. (Currently Amended) The tool as described in claim 11, wherein the reflex hammer [[is]] further comprises a means for guiding the connecting means therein.

25

14. (Original) The tool as described in claim 7, wherein the medical testing is selected from the group consisting of neurological testing, reflex testing, percussion of an abdomen, percussion of a thorax, and percussion of a body part in need of percussion.

30

15. (Currently Amended) A method for employing a stethoscope as a diagnostic ~~neurological~~ tool, comprising the steps of:

affixing to a stethoscope, the stethoscope comprising a stethoscope head having an operational surface;

one or more earpieces; and

35

a means for connecting the stethoscope head with the earpiece,

a reflex hammer, the reflex hammer comprising:

a body having a rim, a wall adjoining the rim, and an opening therein,

the rim being larger than the stethoscope head, and a handle joined to the body;
receiving the stethoscope head in the opening;
positioning the body on the stethoscope head such that the reflex hammer does
not interfere with the stethoscope head operational surface; and
5 positioning the handle so that the connecting means is semi-rigidly received
therein.

16. (Original) The method as described in claim 15, further comprising the step of
10 contacting a patient with the reflex hammer.

17. (Original) The method as described in claim 16, wherein the step of contacting the
patient further comprises contacting the patient with the rim of the reflex hammer.

18. (Original) The method as described in claim 16, wherein the step of contacting the
15 patient further comprises applying the head of the stethoscope to the patient.

19. (Original) A method for employing a stethoscope as a neurological tool, comprising the
steps of:

20 affixing to a stethoscope, the stethoscope comprising a stethoscope head having
an operational surface;
one or more earpieces; and
a means for connecting the stethoscope head with the earpiece,
a reflex hammer, the reflex hammer comprising:
25 a body having a rim, a wall adjoining the rim, and an opening therein,
and the rim being larger than the stethoscope head;
receiving the stethoscope head in the opening;
positioning the body on the stethoscope head such that the reflex hammer does
not interfere with the stethoscope head operational surface; and
30 attaching a handle to the connecting means, thereby semi-rigidly receiving the
connecting means therein.

20. (Original) The method as described in claim 19, further comprising the step of
contacting a patient with the reflex hammer.

21. (Original) The method as described in claim 20, wherein the step of contacting the patient further comprises contacting the patient with the rim of the reflex hammer body.

22. (Original) A tool for medical testing, the tool comprising, in combination:

5 a stethoscope, the stethoscope comprising:

a stethoscope head, the stethoscope head having an operational surface, the head and the operational surfaces each having a size;

one or more earpieces; and

a means for connecting the stethoscope head with the earpiece;

10 a reflex hammer, the reflex hammer attached to the stethoscope head, the reflex hammer comprising:

15 a body having a rim, a wall adjoining the rim, and an opening therein, the stethoscope head being received in the opening, the rim being larger than the stethoscope head, the body positioned on the stethoscope head such that the reflex hammer does not interfere with the stethoscope head operational surface; and

a semi-rigid handle receiving the connecting means therein, the handle not being joined to the body.

20 23. (Original) A device to convert a stethoscope into a tool for medical testing, wherein the stethoscope comprises a stethoscope head, the stethoscope head having an operational surface; one or more earpieces, and a means for connecting the stethoscope head with the earpiece; the device comprising:

25 a reflex hammer for attachment to the stethoscope head, the reflex hammer comprising:

30 a body having a rim, a wall adjoining the rim, and an opening therein for receiving the stethoscope head, the rim being larger than the stethoscope head, the body positionable on the stethoscope head such that the reflex hammer does not interfere with the stethoscope head operational surface; and

a handle, the handle joined to the body, the handle sized to semi-rigidly receive the connecting means therein.

24. (Original) A device to convert a stethoscope into a tool for medical testing, wherein the stethoscope comprises a stethoscope head, the stethoscope head having an operational surface; one or more earpieces; and a means for connecting the stethoscope head with the earpiece; the device comprising:

5 a reflex hammer, the reflex hammer attached to the stethoscope head, the reflex hammer comprising:

10 a body, the body comprising a rim, a wall adjoining the rim, and an opening therein for receiving the stethoscope head, the rim being larger than the stethoscope head, the body positionable on the stethoscope head such that the reflex hammer does not interfere with the stethoscope head operational surface; and

15 a handle sized to semi-rigidly receive the connecting means therein, the handle not being joined to the body.

25. (Currently Amended) A tool for medical testing, the tool comprising, in combination: a stethoscope, the stethoscope comprising:

20 a stethoscope head, the stethoscope head having an operational surface; one or more earpieces; and a means for connecting the stethoscope head with the earpiece;

a reflex hammer, the reflex hammer attached to the stethoscope head, the reflex hammer comprising:

25 a body having a rim, a wall adjoining the rim, and an opening therein, the stethoscope head being received in the opening, the rim being larger than the stethoscope head, the body positioned on the stethoscope head such that the reflex hammer does not interfere with the stethoscope head operational surface; and
30 a handle, the handle joined to the body, the handle sized to receive and semi-rigidly receiving the connecting means therein; the handle further comprising a detent distal from the stethoscope head[.]:

35 an opening being formed in the body between the rim and the handle, the opening allowing rotation of the stethoscope head;

the reflex hammer body comprising one or more members, the members being joined by a fastener, the members comprising a means for guiding the connecting means therein.

26. (Original) The tool as described in claim 25, wherein the stethoscope is chosen from the group consisting of binaural stethoscopes and electronic stethoscopes.

5 27. (Original) The tool as described in claim 25, wherein the stethoscope further comprises a means for selecting the stethoscope head operational surface, the means for selecting the stethoscope head operational surfaces being between the stethoscope head and the means for connecting.

10 28. (Original) A tool for medical testing, the tool comprising, in combination:
a stethoscope, the stethoscope comprising:

a stethoscope head, the stethoscope head having an operational surface;
one or more earpieces; and
a means for connecting the stethoscope head with the earpiece;

15 a reflex hammer, the reflex hammer attached to the stethoscope head, the reflex hammer comprising:

a body having a rim, a wall adjoining the rim, and an opening therein, the
stethoscope head being received in the opening, the rim being larger than the
20 stethoscope head, the body positioned on the stethoscope head such that the reflex
hammer does not interfere with the stethoscope head operational surface; and
a handle, the handle sized to receive and semi-rigidly receiving the connecting means
therein; the handle further comprising a detent distal from the stethoscope head.

25 29. (Cancelled)